

Aotearoa Youth Network



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Hi Everyone.

This is a special bumper issue, since so many people have been sending us stuff. There are a lot of things going on with French testing, local-body elections, and occupations! Send it to us, and we will print it. Photoscartoons are also needed. Keep it coming in!

Remember that CHOGM is almost upon us - read the article on page 15, and let the AUWRC know if you are going. It would be great to have as many AYNers there as possible.

This edition looks different as we have been fiddling about with the format of the mag. It is also larger, so donations are welcome - especially things like stamps. AYN continues to need more money than the subscriptions. If you got a sub notice last month, then please pay - we would love to keep you on the list. If you are broke, let us know and we will continue to send you AYN free.

Kā kaha,

Kyle and Joss.

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Letters to the Network

Dear Editor

Greetings and thankyou for the AYN magazine number 27 or August 1995. I like it very much and pass it around my friends.

However on page two, in the article headed "Thursdays in Black" some misleading statements are made. There is no ethnic cleansing in ex-Yugoslavia because all peoples in the war are South Slavs - all the same people. However they have three different religions and have indulged in religious cleansing for

centuries.

It is called ethnic cleansing to deny the above mentioned fact, and to hide the fact that the Croats act as Roman Catholic Christian terrorists, and the Serbs as Orthodox Catholic Christian terrorists.

It is deliberately misleading for the Bosnian south Slavs to be described by their religion while their persecutors are called by their tribal/national names to protect Christianity from overdue odium.

The Croats act similarly as do the Serbs. The World Council of Churches should expose the Christian religious actions of the Serbs and the Croats as well as stopping the ban on weapons to the infidel Bosnians by big Christian countries.

Thankyou, best wishes

Fred Clements

INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST NUCLEAR TESTING

Update 28 August 1995

AUSTRIA

- 700,000 people are said to have signed a petition against French testing.

AUSTRALIA

- Green and Labour MPs to sail into the test area.
- Newspapers across Australia have contributed space to the domestic ad campaign. Medical groups in particular are collecting money to place ads in le Monde and other French newspapers.
- French aircraft manufacturer Dassault has been banned from bidding for a \$740 million contract for the supply of up to 40 jets. Government "will not rule out" further defence contract sanctions (France has recalled its ambassador in protest).
- The Australian Government is refusing port entry to French military vessels unless they are on humanitarian missions;
- The Waterside Workers Union is refusing to unload French goods on an ad hoc ban. The export of

uranium is targeted for special industrial action. Refuelling of French planes and ships has also been under attack.

- General boycott of French goods around the country. A report issued August 2 indicated that sales of French wines had dropped by 20-30% since mid-June.

- New South Wales (NSW) Trades and Labour Council is maintaining a round the clock picket on maintenance and goods and services at the French Embassy.

- The Sydney Morning Herald is boycotting and refusing to promote French goods in their publication.
- QANTAS staff are refusing to carry French products on its aircraft duty free sales.

BELGIUM

- Over 85 NGOs have given support to the general protest campaign.

CANADA

- Intensive activity at many levels.
- Particularly active are Canadian Peace Alliance, Veterans Against Nuclear Arms, Science for Peace, Physicians for Global Survival, and

End the Arms Race.

DENMARK

- Prime Minister called for consumers to choose their cheese and wine "very carefully". He later got on his bicycle and joined anti-nuclear protesters heading for Paris.
- The Danish branch of a large supermarket chain, SPAR, has called on managers around the world to participate in the boycott.

FINLAND

- Boycott led by the Committee of 100. Leafletting at liquor shops, travel bureaux etc.

GERMANY

- Strong protests and public outrage in many parts of the country, especially where supported by Greenpeace and the Green Party. Many well-known public figures have supported the campaign. Opinion polls put the proportion of the general public opposed to the tests at 95%. Kohl is said to have raised the issue with Chirac at their summit meeting on 11 July. How-

ever the Social Democrats have fiercely criticised the weak response of the CDU.

- The magazine Stern began a mass postcard campaign when it featured 3 detachable cards addressed to Chirac on its front cover (circulation: 1.2 million).

JAPAN

- On the anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, repeated calls were made by numerous mass organisations for the intensification of the protest campaign.

- A firm statement was agreed unanimously by both Houses at an extraordinary session of the Diet on August 4.

- Week of action planned for early September will include both rallies and demonstrations in many cities, and participation in the events in Tahiti.

- The People's Network Against Nuclear Testing has already received support from 110 NGOs for its plans to hold a rally on Sept 2 in Yoyogi Park, Tokyo.

- Among several events at the French embassy in Tokyo, dozens of angry mathematicians and students burned French flags outside the building.

- On 18 July the victims organisation in Nagasaki (60,000 members) called for boycott of French wines, perfumes and clothes. French car and perfume sales said to be dropping.

MALAYSIA

- Fourteen major NGOs, all members of the Malaysian Action Front presented a protest letter to the French embassy in Kuala Lumpur on 27 July.

NETHERLANDS

- A spontaneous campaign against French wine has developed. Most peace groups apparently support the boycott.

- Albert Heijn, the nation's largest supermarket, has cancelled a month-long national newspaper advert campaign highlighting French products.

NEW ZEALAND

- New Zealand sent a ship to sail with the Greenpeace flotilla that left

on 6 Aug 95 to the exclusion zone around Moruroa.

- New Zealand PM, Jim Bolger, criticised the British Government for its failure to speak out against France.

- 94 out of New Zealand's 99 MPs, including Prime Minister Jim Bolger, have signed a letter delivered by a multi-party delegation to the French Embassy.

- Don McKinnon, the Foreign Minister, told Radio New Zealand that France could be frozen out of two multi-million dollar military hardware deals.

- NZ National Council of Trade Unions issued a very strong call to boycott, and have targeted 40 French business groups. They have even threatened to take secondary boycott action against those companies who refuse to boycott the list of 40. French sales to NZ total NZ\$ 319 million per annum.

NORWAY

- 'Unprecedented coverage' by the media to all forms of protest actions in Norway and abroad. One estimate is that over 200 newspaper pages were devoted to events on just one day - the soccer match on July 22.

- All political parties oppose the tests, though labour is against the boycott. Strong support for the campaign from Kirsti Kolle Grondal, President of the Parliament. 4 MPs will join protests in Tahiti.

- Major controversy in Norway over the France v. Norway soccer match. Strong statements from coach, captain and the Norwegian team. Highlight was getting the whole stadium (10,000 fans) to rise with protest posters during the French national anthem (unreported on TV).

- 69 organisations have already given formal endorsement to the IPB boycott campaign, including major trade unions, the Centre Party and groupings in all social sectors.

- Wine monopoly workers may stop all French goods in Norway in the event of tests taking place.

PACIFIC STATES

- In Fiji a huge march handed over a 50,000 signature petition to the French ambassador. On 28 July 3

ministers were fired after they refused to support Prime Minister Rabuka's critical line in a debate over the French tests.

- Boycott taken up by restaurants and other businesses in Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Thailand.
- The Green Party of Hawai'i has announced a campaign for a total boycott of French-origin products.

PHILIPPINES

- Demonstrations and die-ins.
- Cardinal Sin has been praying for "divine intervention to bring the French authorities to their senses".

RUSSIA

- Russia's Parliament, the Duma, passed a resolution on 20 July by 227 votes to nil, asking France to reverse its decision and "make an effort to maintain the de-nuclearised peace".

SWEDEN

- Wide range of protests at all levels.
- Various official delegations to France have been cancelled.
- A Citroen car was 'exploded' outside the French embassy in Stockholm in a recent symbolic action.
- Consumption of French wine has dropped by 40% (compared to same period last year) due to the boycott.
- Swedish Professionals against Nuclear Arms, consisting of 14 groups of professionals ranging from architects to lawyers, and scientists to teachers, has joined the boycott and protest campaign.

SWITZERLAND

- Week of Action in Geneva: IPB Secretariat organised in late June, in conjunction with the AtomTeststopp-Kampagne, Germany, and various local peace and environment groups, a successful programme of workshops, visits to diplomatic missions, press conferences and a demonstration including some imaginative street theatre. Further demonstration in Geneva Sept 1st.

THAILAND

- On Aug 16, Thai Peace Day, a wreath was laid in Lumpini Park, Bangkok, by the Rethink Nuclear

Project on behalf of 500 NGOs nationwide. Student groups are especially active in collecting signatures.

UNITED KINGDOM

- Said to be the only EU state to support France. Government has rejected calls by the Labour opposition to distance itself from the French decision.

- Strong campaigns launched both by Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and the British Nuclear Test Ban Coalition. The latter have commissioned a hard-hitting cinema advertisement focusing on the boycott of French wines. Extensive media coverage, including a TV debate with the head of France's wine marketing board.

- Misc. actions have included giant postcards/bottles, supermarket leafletting, calls on MPs, town twinning actions, mass phone-ins, and public disposal of 'Chateau de Chirac' wines.

USA

- Many observers believe that President Clinton's historic announcement on August 11 that the

USA will hold out for a genuinely Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, rather than an agreement permitting low-level explosions, was prompted at least in part by observing the world-wide reaction to the French decision. It is notable that the French and British have also gone along with the US position, and there is now suddenly much greater optimism about the prospects for an early agreement at the CTBT negotiations in Geneva.

- Demonstrations and protests condemning the French decision were held across the country both on Bastille Day and Aug 6 - 9.

- A number of San Francisco's most popular and famous French restaurants have joined Greenpeace in protesting against the resumption of testing. The restaurants have pledged to donate 20% of a day's takings to Greenpeace.

PROTESTS AGAINST CHINESE TESTING

Since the Chinese announced their latest test on August 17 there have been a number of protest actions

by organisations who feel that the Chinese actions, just like the French, are undermining efforts to stem proliferation and to achieve a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. These have included the now-famous Greenpeace demonstration in Tienanmen Square, hurriedly suppressed by police, but not before photographers had taken pictures that were relayed immediately around the world. Strong statements of condemnation have been made by various NGOs, including the World Council of Churches, the International Union of Foodworkers, British CND, the Norwegian Peace Alliance, and the French Mouvement de la Paix. A sit-in took place at the Chinese embassy in Oslo. Some groups are calling for the consumer boycott to be extended to Chinese goods and services. Various governments have protested at the Chinese action, while the Japanese government has trimmed grant aid to China, just as it did after the previous test in May.

• International Peace Bureau

Wellington Anti-Nuke Protests

The first French nuclear test at Mururoa Atoll on October 6 drew a quick response from activist groups in Wellington, but political arguments distracted from the protests.

Greenpeace supporters rallied at the French Embassy an hour after news of the test came through, calling for the weapons-testing program to end.

Several anarchists calling themselves the Pacific Resident's Association attempted to present an "eviction notice" to the French ambassador at the Embassy the following morning. The notice demanded the French State "immediately quit all properties currently occupied in the South Pacific".

About 500 people attended a demonstration organised by the anti-testing group Non! at lunchtime

the day after the test. Several people on the march objected to the presence of a placard reading "Defend deformed workers states against Imperialism. China/N.Korea have the right to nuclear defence", carried by a member of Trotskyist Permanent Revolution Group.

Emma Robinson says she decided not to stay on the march. "I felt it had been hijacked by people using it for their own political gains - it made the whole movement look stupid" she says. I walked away angry."

Peace activist and former NON! spokesperson Lou May says she wonders why the PRG became involved in the group. "I think it's ridiculous to be opposed to one person's bomb and not another's" she says.

However, during a speech at a rally following the demonstration, Adraire Hannah of the Permanent Revolution Group reiterated the group's views. "We have no illusions about the corrupt Stalinist regimes of China and North Korea, but we support their right to defend themselves with nuclear weapons" she said.

Following the demonstration NON!'s policy changed when peace movement liberals stacked a meeting and voted through a policy expressing opposition to all nuclear weapons and tests. The two Permanent Revolution Group members at the meeting left after the vote was taken.

At this stage the group has no plans for future activities.

Several trade unionists carried their organisation's banners on the demonstration, along with Quakers and political parties. After speeches at Civic Square, anarchists led about eighty mainly young people to an impromptu rally outside the French Embassy.

Police reacted rapidly to this, bringing in about forty uniformed police, in addition to detectives and Diplomatic Protection Squad members, who surrounded the embassy until protesters left.



One man was arrested for acting with reckless disregard for the safety of others after a burning French flag blew on the forecourt of a petrol station opposite the embassy.

Eviction Notice

Under the authority granted to us by the opinion of the people of the South Pacific, the French State is hereby required to immediately quit all properties currently occupied in the South Pacific.

This action is taken following repeated complaints from neighbours and residents concerning:

- illegal occupation.
- acts of violence.
- failure to maintain the property to the required standard.
- damage to the property.
- general disrespect and somewhat inconsiderate behaviour.

All of these activities have continued despite frequent requests to desist.

Signed
Pacific Residents Association.

• Sam Buchanan

AUCKLAND STUDENTS SUPPORT TAHITIAN INDEPENDENCE

SEPT 11. Forty members of Auckland University Radical Society and Te Kawau Maro mounted a noisy protest in Auckland today in support of Tahitian Independence, gaining national TV coverage.

The students burnt French and New Zealand flags outside the governing National Party's offices in Auckland, in defiance of government criticism of flag burning. Ministry of Foreign Affairs representatives last week apologised to the French and Indonesian Embassies for flag burning incidents.

The demonstrators criticised Prime Minister Jim Bolger for a 'spineless stance' against the French testing in the Pacific. Speakers accused the government of a 'half-hearted

response demonstrating they did not want to risk offending the rich white colonial club'.

Protest organiser Natalie Paltridge said, 'Expulsion of the French from Tahiti is the most practical way to end the barbaric testing programme in the Pacific'.

'It's about time the government abandoned its spineless stance on French testing and took some practical steps to kick the French out of the Pacific. New Zealand should be supporting the call of the Polynesian Liberation Front, Tavini Huiraatira, for independence', said Ms Paltridge.

• Bruce Cronin

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS!

STREET ART AOTEAROA

StreetArt Aotearoa is a soon-to-be incorporated society bringing together all the creative, talented and interesting people in Aotearoa. We are a group who like to be creative about the messages we bring through dancing, singing, painting and acting; and there is no better place to do this than in the streets!

The national conference of StreetArt Aotearoa was held in Palmerston North over the weekend of 27 - 30 July. It was attended by well over forty people from the far Northern reaches of Auckland, to the snowy Southern stretches of Dunedin, and all the windy bits in between.

We came from a wide range of issues. Amongst those represented were students from Otago University, the Auckland Unemployed Workers Rights Centre, the Petone Drama group, and a bunch of women singers (who shall remain nameless - probably for evermore!). Many were not connected to any specific group,

and many just turned up for a look.

There were lots of highlights to the weekend: An insightful and intense play about the life of Princess Te Paea had an extremely talented cast; the Milton Worker's play was also fist-biting stuff (the troupe have recently toured around the South); and various groups performed their own acts in front of a bemused Saturday crowd in K-Mart, Palmerston North. But I think what really knocked everybody's socks off, was when the entire workshop subverted the Pizza Piazzapremises on-the-Square into a hangout for activist poets and singers. A few kumara chips later and everybody's creative juices flowed into a loud and fun evening for all.

It wasn't all fun and games, however. There was plenty of work to do. At the StreetArt Aotearoa AGM, Sue Bradford was elected president, Lisa Beech as secretary, and Paul Munder as Treasurer. The larger group also separated into workshops to produce some won-

derful street theatre, ideas for big, bright and beautiful banners, and a solid gold number one hit original (song!) called "Not in Vain", which had its debut performance at the poetry evening.

All in all, an awesome weekend; a few glitches, but hey - all in a day's work. As a career, activism needs to include a few disappointments to keep everything interesting. The most important thing for me is all the great ideas I gained from meeting other people throughout the weekend. Long live the singers, dancers, painters, chanters and actors. They will keep the rhove-ment alive through their creativity and ability to have fun. Kia kaha!

• **Anna Fenwick**

Anyone interested in Street Art Aotearoa should contact Lisa Beech, Flat 16, 449 Jackson Street, Petone, WELLINGTON, ph (04) 576 0464. Don't miss out on the next Street Art Aotearoa newsletter!!

Unionists Picket Visit of Philippines President

Philippines President visits NZ to Sell Cheap Labour

A noisy picket of unionists and church people opposed to President Fidel Ramos's human rights record in the Philippines and his visit to NZ to sell cheap labour made a noisy presence at the President's official welcome at Parliament.

Chants of "Ramos kills workers" and Marcos's butcherer" were heard

throughout the welcome, even over the level of the Army band.

Placards and banners, in English and Tagalog, raised our pretests about exploitation of labour and human rights abuses.

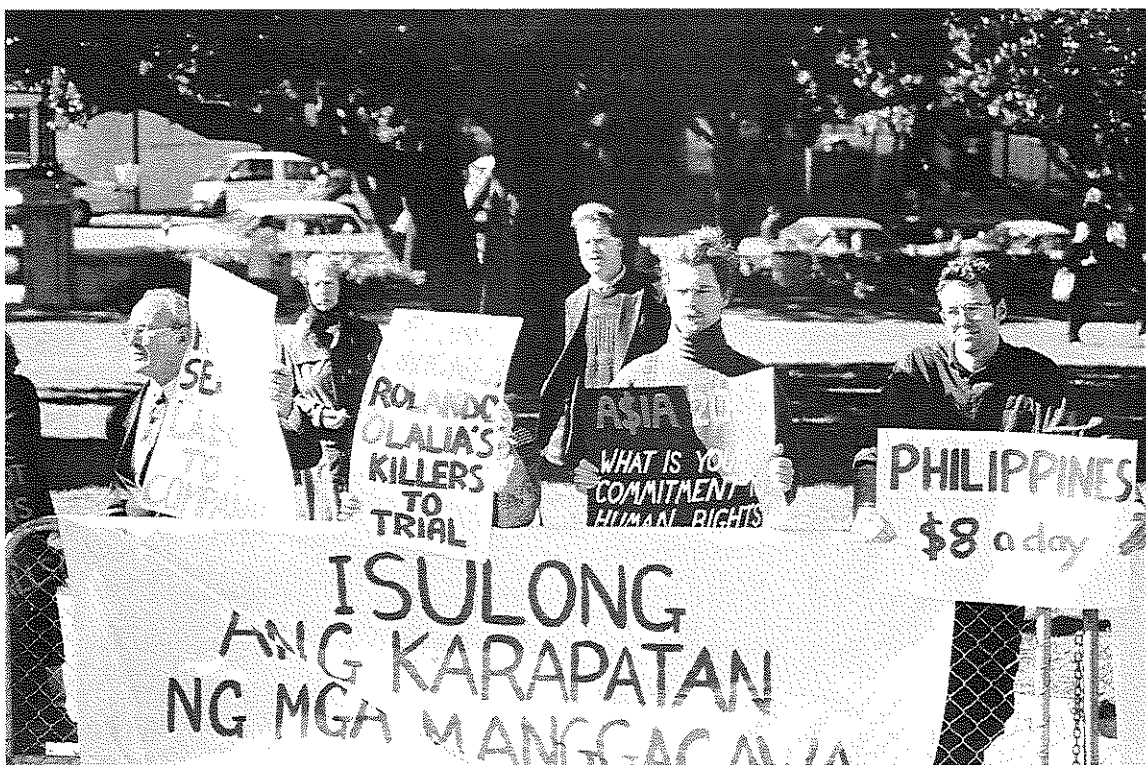
The picket was organised by Asia Pacific Workers Solidarity Links - Aotearoa, who have been raising concerns for three years now about NZ investment in Asia. The Govern-

ment's Asia 2000 programme has actively promoted New Zealand investment in Asia without any commitment from New Zealand companies that workers' basic rights would be respected.

Ramos's visit to NZ included the signing of three joint venture agreement with NZ companies. One of these was with an Auckland yacht company to develop boats for military and police use in the South-

ern Philippine island of Mindanao, where military and police human rights abuses have been extreme.

The main thrust of the Philippine economy under Ramos has been to attract foreign investment. The programme to make the workers of the Philippines internationally competitive include labour laws which undermine worker's organisations, job security and wages and conditions.



Workers in the Philippines are often forced to go on strike to gain even the legal minimum wage of \$NZ8 a day. They then face violence, arrest and even death from 'goons', police or military attacks on their picket lines.

Former President Marcos's restrictions on strikes have been integrated into new labour laws under Ramos. The military and police are empowered to intervene in purely industrial disputes. Increasingly, regular workers are being fired and replaced by casual and contract workers. As in New Zealand, casual and contract workers are paid lower rates and are much harder to unionise than regular workers.

Ramos's own human rights record also came under scrutiny. As the head of the the army under Marcos, he was one of those who implemented and enforced over a decade of martial law in the Philippines. Killings, torture and arrests of political prisoners continue under Ramos; there were at least 126 unexplained deaths last year.

President Ramos was welcomed warmly by Prime Minister Jim Bolger, who described the visit as "historic" and on the whole uncritically by the media, many of whom gave Ramos's anti-nuclear testing message priority. Ramos's Parliamentary banquet was attended by CTU President Ken Douglas, who walked past the union

picket telling Radio NZ that he believed the situation of Philippine workers would improve now that Philippine Secretary of Labour is head of the ILO. It is worth considering that Jim Bolger was also head of the ILO before his government introduced the Employment Contracts Act.

Many unionists and activists in Aotearoa have found inspiration from the strength and courage of Philippine trade unionists and workers. Increasing cooperation between NZ and Philippine governments and businesses means more need for solidarity between workers and activists.

• Lisa Beech

An Assessment of the Three budgets - National, Labour, and Alliance

Over the last two months or so we have had the Government's Budget which does affect our lives immediately, and two "alternative budgets" from Labour and the Alliance.

In assessing what the actual Birch/National Budget will do to beneficiaries specifically and people in general and the other two budgets

would do if Labour or the Alliance had been the government has to be highly subjective.

The background to the three budgets is a high surplus of government revenue (from taxes and user pays) over expenditure (government services, benefits, schools and health - or at least part of the last two).

NATIONAL

National promises tax cuts for the rich and famous but as yet can not decide what to deliver. What it does do is pay off some of this debt we keep hearing about, put marginal increases into compulsory education (primary and secondary schools). For beneficiaries the most

significant aspect of the budget is to attack people on the Invalids and Sickness Benefit.

National intend to tighten the criteria for these two benefits, moving people onto the unemployment benefit. This step is nothing but a meanspirited money-grubbing exercise. The re-assessment process in itself is bound to be stressful, and knowing the people who will do it (NZISS) no doubt be mangled and humiliating, with the added insult of those reassessed having to survive on less money.

National headlines about increasing funding in schools is a sham. The dollars involved barely keep pace with inflation and do not take full account of all the extra children starting school.

It is interesting to note that when marked by economists, community group leaders, trade unionists and millionaire's club, the first lot - economists - gave it a mixed responses, the middle two groups gave it a very poor showing and the millionaires club high praise. Beneficiaries would give it one percent.

LABOUR

While the introduction and criticism of the National Budget makes for perplexing reading (they keep on wanting to claim the credit for the good bits of the economic reform made by Douglas, but not the bad bits) so it is un-certain just where they do stand. They do promise some positive initiatives that would have a positive impact on the lives of beneficiaries.

For beneficiaries the good news is that most of us would get a pay rise. But they still persist in wanting to pay a married unemployed couple well under what two single unemployed would get, still discriminate against under 25 year olds and do nothing about the stand downs to many of us have had to suffer. While not mentioned, the IYB may go under Labour as 16 and 17 year olds not in training will be in a job or at school because Annette King (Labours Social Welfare dragon says so).

Family Support is increased, \$25 for the first child from April 1996, and \$10 for all children from April 1997.

The new rates are \$155 for 16-17 youth away from home and 18-25 at home (no increase). For 18-25 away from home it increases to \$138. For ALL single beneficiaries over 25 it is \$157. Married beneficiaries get \$262. (As it happens WUWU was contacted to draw up a weekly budget for single and married beneficiaries without children, but Labour did not put their figures in.)

Labour also puts lots of resources puts a whopping \$481 million into a range of factors designed to help economic growth which supposedly helps create employment. This will be in part promoting small and medium sized businesses, reducing compliance costs (filling in forms) and investment in the "infrastructure". There is also \$125 million to make New Zealanders into "a highly skilled, adaptable workforce, local delivery of employment policies and programmes and the way work is organised (the last being code for working with the unions). Sounds interesting, but no detail, and certainly no formal contact.

In the education field there is ground for genuine praise. Generous increases to the school operating grants, 10% for each of the next three years. There will also be consequential increases to teacher training so that we can have trained NZ teachers. Labour also put \$125 million into education over the next three years.

In the health area, all senior citizens and pre-schoolers will have the medical subsidy extended, with a commitment to reducing the costs of doctor visits, costing an extra \$135 million a year.

In the other area of interest, Housing, Labour promises a move back to income-related rentals (but no percentage mentioned, and more state houses being built (but no numbers mentioned).

Labour though spoils its patch by

not mentioning resources which will be used by Maaori for Maaori to determine the detail of Treaty grievance settlements. Perhaps they are scared of a white-red-neck back-lash.

Labours Budget scores just above 50%. While spending money, they fail to address some of the inconsistencies we have told them over the years. They ignore the regressive nature of GST, the flattened tax table.

ALLIANCE (Te Tuuhono)

The Alliance use a different approach. They start out by presenting four key problems facing New Zealand. They are;

"the economy has not yet been placed on an environmentally sound footing,

we are overdependent on the rest of the world for the capital we need for economic development - as reflected in the increasing balance of payments deficit, the growth of overseas debt, and the sale of New Zealand resources to foreign owners,

the huge gap between the rich and low and middle income earners, with a significant part of the population slipping into relative poverty with restricted access to education, health, superannuation, insurance and housing,

and have yet to solve satisfactorily some of the problems in Maaori/Paakehaa relations."

Alliance promises better public transport, investing in water and sewage treatment, forestry, pest and weed control, along with 2,000 more state houses each year.

As well there is free doctor visits, free prescriptions, and a return to income related HNZ rentals - where the rent is 25% of income. But it is not all roses, the Alliance do not promise any increases to benefits, but do promise to remove all stand down periods.

An Economic Development Fund is

established which will "foster development that creates new renewable resources to re-place the non-renewable ones" we use currently.

The Treaty of Waitangi is recognised as the country's founding document - a first acknowledgement in a BUDGET yet, with increased funding promised for the Waitangi Tribunal, and a Treaty Justice Fund to address outstanding claims. Alliance will also create a Rohe Pooti - democratically elected regional assemblies - which would facilitate Maaori initiatives in education, health, cultural development, and to assist Maaori economic development. Not only is the Rohe Pooti established, funding is guaranteed for it to implement these initiatives.

Alliance describes full employment "as full participation and belonging to society by all its members with an adequate income and rising standard of well-being for all." This is similar wording to the Royal Commission on Social Policy in the mid-1970s. The 2000 new state houses per year, and \$1.22 billion of infrastructure investment will start real job creation, and with the Reserve bank being made to make 0% interest loans to local bodies for approved projects the Alliance is the closest of the three by far of looking like delivering had they been the Government last month.

The Alliance also confronts where it is getting the money from. Despite attacks from National and Labour the printed word says those on less than \$650 a week will pay less tax, while those earning more will pay more. GST will go, replaced by a financial transaction tax, which will effect all those people who buy and sell money. Alliance will also bring in a carbon tax.

Overall the Alliance budget is positive, although beneficiaries receive no direct increase in income in the first year there are gains through reduced health care costs and funding being put into schools. However the non-increase in benefits is significant. They do address Maaori self-determination

and do tackle where they are going to get the dosh with which to spend. I suppose 70%.

CONCLUSION

I suppose if we could marry up the benefit increases from Labour, the cost of which is not mentioned with the Alliances we would get well into the into the 80%. But politicians being what they are, such a merger

is some years away.

The Alliance does have the better budget, but Labour do look at our situation (but not as well as it could have had had it talked more to us).

• Graham Howell

Wellington Unemployed Workers Union for 'Declaration', magazine of Te Roopu Rawakore O Aotearoa. <wuwu@nubm.wgtn.planet.co.nz>

Maaori Law Review

EDITORIAL - August 95 Maaori Law Review

On the 7 April 1995 the Australian High Court in the case of Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs v Teoh (1995) 128 ALR 353 held that a convicted heroin smuggler from Malaysia, who was refused residence in Australia because of his criminal convictions, had a legitimate expectation that the immigration authorities would consider UN instruments on the paramount rights of children, and initiate inquiries into the effect his deportation might have on his children born in Australia. The majority of the court found that international instruments which had been ratified, even if not yet incorporated into municipal law, could generate a legitimate expectation that officials would act in accordance with them. As Dr Rodney Harrison noted in a recent paper, this and similar, if less dramatic, NZ judgments, open the way for international human rights covenants to be invoked in the context of administrative decision making by the executive ("Domestic enforcement of international human rights in Courts of law: Some recent developments" NZLJ August 1995 p256).

In light of these developments it is becoming alarmingly anachronistic that the Treaty of Waitangi remains officially in the position the Privy Council left it in in Te Heu Heu Tukino v Aotea District Maaori Land Board [1941] AC 308, outside the municipal law of this country until incorporated into it directly by

statute. In a recently published essay, Sian Elias QC has argued that "it is time to recognise that the notion of arbitrary Parliamentary sovereignty represents an obsolete and inadequate idea of the New Zealand constitution. It fails to take account not only of the place of the Treaty in New Zealand history but also of developing principles of international law. The Treaty requires to be recognised as fundamental to our constitutional system by reason of its status as a compact with the indigenous peoples of New Zealand and because of the vulnerability of the indigenous people and the increasing international concerns for their protection." ("The Treaty of Waitangi and the Separation of Powers in NZ" in Courts and Policy. Checking the Balance Legal Research Foundation 1995).

At the hui called by Sir Hepi Te Heuheu in response to the Crown proposals for Treaty settlements it was decided that priority should be given to "a constitutional review jointly undertaken by Maaori and the Crown for the purpose of developing a NZ constitution based on the Treaty of Waitangi." (MH Durie "Proceedings of a Hui held at Huirangi Marae, Turangi" in VUWLR vol 25 no 2 July 1995). In the coming months, it is hard to see how debate about the status of the Treaty can be avoided.

• Tom Bennion

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES RESTRUCTURING

URGENT! URGENT! URGENT!

Cabinet has approved a proposal to restructure National Archives. In 1994, a review of Archives was undertaken by Wellington planning consultants McDermott Miller. Miller incidentally wrote the report on the restructuring of the NZ Fire Service! On 9th August, Dr Blakeley (Secretary of Internal Affairs) announced that National Archives is to be restructured. Instead of a strong, cohesive National Archives, the institution will henceforth be split into three organisationally and physically separated business units;

- Policy Unit (Internal Affairs Head Office)
- Funding Regulatory Unit (To be headed by the Chief Archivist)
- Service Provider Unit (To be headed by a generic General Manager).

This is an ideologically driven attempt to impose Treasury's health services model on an institution with less than 80 staff!

* It is believed that this is the first step in a plan to create an 'archives market', the present National Archives being ultimately compelled to compete with 'alternative providers' for the custody of official records.

* The implications for users and friends of National Archives are serious. A probable outcome of the commercialisation of national Archives and the entry of alternative providers, is MORE RIGOROUS CHARGING REGIMES, AND A LOSS OF CONTROL OVER THE NATION'S PUBLIC RECORDS.

* Beyond the immediate impact upon researchers, it is considered there are serious constitutional

principles at stake. As the 'Memory of Government,' National Archives is the nation's historical audit office. It is the means by which official decisions remain indefinitely scrutinisable. The institution should therefore be afforded the same protection from ill-informed (boorish) tinkering as Audit New Zealand.

* Independent legal advice informs us that the Blakeley proposals are contrary to the Archives Act 1957 and is at variance with the draft Archives Bill circulated in 1992.

* The Hon Warren Cooper (Minister for Internal Affairs) publicly stated on National radio that Cabinet had no intentions of privatising National Archives. Why then is he radically restructuring Archives without any consultation with Archive's staff and library professionals? Cabinet have estimated the \$value of Archives at \$890 million.

* The same unfortunate minister previously stated that he intended reducing the volume of archival holdings. There are only 2 ways of achieving this - by reducing the intake of records or culling existing collections.

MAAORI CONCERNS

Since the inception of the Waitangi Tribunal in 1975, Treaty claims research has created the largest demand for archival services. Also Maaori have comprised the largest user group of Archive's. The burden of a user pays regime will fall directly on Maaori who are already experiencing difficulties financing research. Ultimately this will slow down the claims resolution process. If

the Minister can determine the extent and nature of Archival collections- will a political bias mean that Maori records will be culled?

WHAT SHOULD MAAORI DO?

A claim is being lodged today with the Waitangi Tribunal objecting to the restructuring and probable privatisation of Archives and seeks protection of Maaori related materials. An urgent hearing is being sought. You should write to the Prime Minister Jim Bolger objecting to the above, send a letter to the Waitangi Tribunal c/- Buddy Mikaere if you want to make a submission for the Hearing.

Maori need to strenuously oppose these proposals!!

[Tuiwi should both oppose them and support Maaori in their expression of their own unique concerns.]

• Tania.Rei@vuw.ac.nz



Cultural Pollution

What does it mean, that such a frenzy of excitement should be generated among the youth of Bangkok or Jakarta, when they learn that some American star is to perform? what is the significance of the suddenly altered appearance of a whole generation of young people, in emulation of the latest superstar to hit the scene?

What can be the cause of the rush to acquire the merchandising that goes with the promotion of the most recent multi-million dollar blockbuster? What drives the emerging middle-class to the McDonald's stores all over South Asia, exposing their already overweight kids to commerciogenic malnutrition from excessive intake of burgers and Mr Slurpee.

What are people trying to when they visit the savourless fast-food joints, all white lighting, primary colours and immovable moulded plastic chairs?

What kind of experience are they seeking when they abandon nasi goreng or tomyam kung in favour of bland potato chips all imported from the United States and beef that has never trodden the open spaces of the prairie?

What is it that sends the waiter in the Bangkok restaurant to the temple, to pray that he might be successful in the lottery for green cards which will enable him to go and perform some equally menial task in America?

What causes people all over Asia to tolerate the intolerable, because the fumes, poisons and gases from the vehicles are associated with "development, and therefore even these noxious things symbols of progress"?

Native

What makes the heart of local people burst with pride, when they see the skyline of their city transformed, the soaring temples, spires and domes of their native places of worship overshadowed by the marble and glass rectangular slabs of the headquarters of some transnational financial entity, because this makes Manila or Saigon look more like Manhattan than the Philippines or Vietnam?

What makes the slum-dwellers needy forsake the shelter which they have so painstakingly constructed with all the ingenuity and energy at their command, because they are told that their community must give way to the needs of a new road, a brand-new condo, yet another shopping mall that will serve as an outlet for the logos of a transnational luxury from which they know they are destined to remain excluded.

What causes mature women to weep over the fate of the shallow plastic figures in the television serial, while the real tangible sufferings of her own maidservant, about which she could, if she chose, do something, leave her cold?

These are not idle or rhetorical questions. They correspond to the life experiences of millions of people throughout the "developing" world, and as such, cannot be wished away or treated with derision. In what vacuum can such useless, ugly and futile things take on the allure of something desirable, fresh and beautiful?

It goes without saying that if such cultural artefacts find so easy a passage into the heart and imagination of people in the South, this is because these places have already been prepared, made receptive to them.

It is clear that such junk would not

merely be acceptable, but welcomed, if there had not already been a considerable process of clearing the ground, of removing whatever was there before. We may look at it as of a piece with other forms of clearing terrain ready for alien occupation - perhaps the use of defoliants, herbicides and toxins in order to prepare any other ground for a single monoculture.

People have been subjected to a long, sustained cycle of inferiorisation, a disgracing of their own culture, an estrangement from their own values, a distancing from the homely, familiar ways of doing things which used to be local cultures.

This transitional culture of nowhere originates, not in the spontaneous and natural desire of people to sing and celebrate their lives, to share their ways of being, of eating and singing, with others; but it is crafted in a global marketplace, whose cultural creations must sell to hundreds of millions of people or fail.

It requires that people shed their own values, their own characteristics, their own traditions and customs; it is for the benefit of a vast entertainment conglomerates who are responding to what the people want, only because of all the anterior acts of violence committed against those who now welcome international junk culture as a liberation, rather than as the fresh act of vandalism which it is against their culture and mores.

In other words, it is the long, as yet unfinished business of colonialism that has prepared the peoples of the world for this apotheosis of market culture.

These are two important points: this colonialism has already been so thoroughly established in the

countries where it originates, that the people there do not recognise it as such, cannot name or even combat it.

Subservient

For them, it has become "normal", that their lives should have become an aspect of commerce, that their society should be subservient to economic necessity, that their values should have become synonymous with market values.

This is why so much of the unhappiness and misery of the West has no recognised or legitimate existence; faulty individuals, not a social and economic system, are at the root of all problems.

It goes without saying that the levels of crime, of family breakdown, of social disintegration (to borrow a phrase from the recent social Summit), of fear, distrust and isolation of individuals, are permitted no social causes, other than the depravity of a capitalist version of human nature.

The social and economic system is blameless, pure of all blemish, free of any taint of scandal. After all, it merely seeks to create wealth, and who could possibly object to that.

A far deeper and more concrete

critique is required by the West itself before the people of the South can expect to find allies among those who suffer as they do, but who look in vain for causes of their despair and lack of hope.

Only when this has been achieved can we expect the true lineaments of the joint struggle for human liberation of people of North and South to be made clearer to us.

Secondly, and for this very reason, the people of the North more than ever now need the assistance of those in the South who are still able to monitor the continuing violence, the daily assault upon their traditions and cultures.

We may be enabled to see ourselves in the not so distant mirror of the violence to which the people of the South are not being subjected. This of course marks a reversal of the usual way of looking at a South in need of aid, handouts, largesse, from the North.

The first thing, then, is for the South to describe and name the nature of the pollution which is now contaminating its traditions and values, the destruction of human rootedness and continuity, the violent interruption of the transmission of values through the generations, the daily abuse of children by commerce, the

intensifying inferiorisation of a humanity whose life must be lived under the licence of transnational power and wealth.

In the South, it is still a living process of dispossession, the diminishing of parental caring, for instance, when parents are increasingly assailed by advertising telling them that they can best win their children's affection by buying the product of some transnational company; women are portrayed as receiving the affection of their children, because they have bought some prefabricated food, mixed it with water and set it before their delighted young ones.

Here we are in the presence of the passing of parental control, the prising apart of the family, as more and more daily needs are answered only by the courtesy of the MNCS. This is how parents become diminished, no longer the source of nurture, but the helpless customers of conglomerates who speak over their heads to their own children.

Those who preside over these social dispospossessions are, paradoxically, usually the sternest defenders of the family; yet it is the system they cherish which is tearing the family apart.

Demand



1080 DROPS THREAT TO KIWIS

Mostly, the international media speak more directly to the children, urging them to be like everyone else, to demand the fashionable logo on the footwear, the badge of belonging on the T-shirt; the transnational entertainment and pop industries create heroes and stars and role-models, creatures of an impossible perfection, images of whom which the young duly paste on to their bedroom walls.

This figments and fantasies displace real flesh and blood from their lives, disgrace known family and friends, set before them models impossible of imitation.

When children are disturbed in their growing up by these shadows, when they defy their parents, run away from home, take to drugs or alcohol, the same defenders of the family will cry woe and ruin.

What they will not see is the connection between the social evils and economic goods, the growth and spread of which have become the principal dynamic force in society.

What we need is a project of reclamation; just as land that has been polluted and laid waste by industrialism is now being reclaimed, rehabilitated, so we have to initiate a programme of restoring the damaged landscapes of the heart, the occupied territories of the heart and imagination, the colonised regions of the spirit.

It is clear that the very use of such terms implies something akin to the liberation movements of the former colonial empires: the freeing of ruined cultures and broken traditions, of inferiorised humanity and impaired self-reliance from the oppressive culture of global dominance.

We can see the outline of a future movement for emancipation that can unite a majority of peoples, North and South, to reclaim even profounder freedoms than those once embodied in national liberation struggles.

• **Jeremy Seabrook**

(From 'Rural News' August 7 by Ross Annabel)

Former government scientist Mike Meads predicts that continued 1080 airdrops over New Zealand forests will destroy much of the food supply of ground eating birds like the kiwi.

He warns that because 1080 wipes out many leaf consuming insects and micro-organisms, the litter fails to properly decompose and builds up at an alarming rate. 'Continue to apply 1080 and you will end up with knee-deep leaves because they are not breaking down. There is already quite amazing leaf build-up in some lowland forests.'

Meads believes a complicating factor is the unusually long life cycle of many of New Zealand's forest floor invertebrates, for instance the cicada (with a 17 year life cycle), and the weta (two years). One airdrop can wipe out 17 generations of cicada larvae in the leaf litter, and they and weta are an important factor in a kiwi's diet, he says.

Meads worked for the DSIR from 1969-1992, transferred to Landcare Research, and was made redundant after completing a year-long contract study for DOC on effects of 1080 on non-target invertebrates of the forest floor at Whitecliffs, Taranaki, in 1991. He now works as a consultant with Ecological Research Associates, Upper Hutt.

Meads surveyed pit trap lines set up to study a helicopter drop of 9.5 tonnes of 1080 baits over Whitecliffs forest.

He said DOC would not let him publish his scientific paper based on the results, told him they did not want it released, and largely ignored his recommendations made as a result of his study.

He said few people realised the extent to which forest litter contributes nutrients to the forest, birds and insects. 'Many people don't realise it's both systemic and contact poison, with long-term effects in the forest litter'.

Many of the invertebrate populations had not recovered a year after the drop. A disturbing aspect was a significant reduction in insect numbers in the control pit-trap line, which was marked by helium filled balloons flying over the forest canopy to stop the helicopter showering it with poison pellets.

The control line was 50m away from the 1080 sample line, and was not supposed to be affected by the poison. It must have been contaminated by aerial blown dust.

His study showed massive effects on life cycles of some invertebrate larvae, including large numbers of beetle species, weta, springtails, flies, moths, wasps, dipterans and collembola in both study lines.

Meads said that claims by some commentators that 1080 breaks down quickly are not borne out by overseas research, which has found that the chemical is absorbed to a high degree by leaf and root tissue, cellulose products such as filter paper, oats and grains. One study showed 1080-treated oat baits retained half the original potency after seven weeks weathering, including 60mm of rain.

Meads said that although 1080 is highly soluble in water, it is unlikely to show up in sampling, because of the chemical's affinity to absorption in cellulose, such as filtration paper, algae and other bacteria and plant particles in water. Because of that, he is not surprised that analysts

have not found harmful quantities in household water supplies tested after public complaints by anti-1080 lobbyists.

Meads said he is not against 1080 as a vector control tool if safely used, such as in bait traps, where it would be specific to a given animal. 'But widespread ariel distribution can only have serious long-term effects on forests and forest life, with enormous risk of destroying the eco system.'

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting

CHOGM Action Update

The Commonwealth Heads of Government is drawing nearer, and the action coalition is stepping up organising efforts. We are preparing for 4 days of action during the conference. An increasing number of groups and individuals are joining the campaign, with people from Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington, Palmerston North, Hamilton, and Northland preparing to come to Auckland. Students, Unemployed and Beneficiaries, Workers, Church activists, Peace and Political Groups are joining in.

The planned activities so far are:

Tuesday 7 November. Planning meeting at Auckland Peoples' Centre, 33 Wyndham St. 10am.

Wednesday 8 November: Rally and demonstration going to Aotea Square, on the question of citizens' rights to access Auckland's (and Aotearoa's) public places, our rights of assembly and speech under the Bill of Rights, and to highlight the issues raised by the CHOGM meeting. Starts at 1 pm.

Thursday 9 November - Rally and demonstration at the Queen's reception for the Heads of Government, 6.30 pm.

Friday 10 November - 2 rallies and demonstrations at 8.15 am and 12.30 pm.

Monday 13 November - Rallies / demos at the closing of the Confer-

ence, 8.15 am and 11 am.

All demonstrations begin outside the public library in Lorne St.

There will almost certainly be other activities planned by the Action Coalition or by other groups, and will be a range of things for people to get involved in.

So why are we protesting?

Groups are likely to protest at CHOGM around specific issues, such as the British Response to French Nuclear Testing, or English Imperialism in Ireland. While supporting these agendas, the CHOGM Action Coalition has chosen four broad areas of concern in order to involve as many people as possible.

These are:

- Σ Exposing the Government's role in Treaty negotiations and demanding the full decolonisation of Aotearoa.
- Σ Telling the Government and Commonwealth leaders that we don't accept what National has done to workers, students, unemployed, beneficiaries and other low income people of Aotearoa over the last five years.
- Σ Demanding that all Commonwealth Governments, including our own, urgently address issues of poverty and human rights so that we all have true 'Common Wealth'.
- Σ Upholding the right of ordinary people to speak and assemble

in Auckland's public places.

The Police prepare!

The CHOGM will be the biggest police operation ever in Aotearoa. While security is undoubtedly needed for overseas leaders, there are a number of disturbing aspects to the police operation. The first is its size - 1900 officers are being mobilised, and planning has been going on for years. This at a time when police resources are considered to be stretched by the police themselves, and when over half of crimes are unsolved. 4 large hotels have been booked up by Police coming from out of Auckland. The cost in time and money is huge. Central Auckland will be turned into a virtual Police State for 2 weeks.

Main roads are going to be closed, as well as the Aotea Centre Car Park, which contains 1000 car parks. No provision has been made by the Police or City Council for the loss of these parks, or for compensation for businesses which will be effectively closed down during CHOGM by the Police. The police will be erecting road blocks and are undertaking a huge 'information gathering exercise' in the lead up to CHOGM - meaning they are trying to find out 'who the subversives are', and stop them protesting.

Aotea Square, the traditional centre for protests (and lunches) in Auckland, is again being closed to the public for the exclusive use of the elite. As with the Asian Develop-

ment Bank Meeting in May, this closure is likely to be reinforced with organised violence on the part of the Police.

So why come to CHOGM?

The CHOGM actions are important for a number of reasons. The huge police presence is designed to stop our right to protest. This is pure intimidation, which we must stand up to.

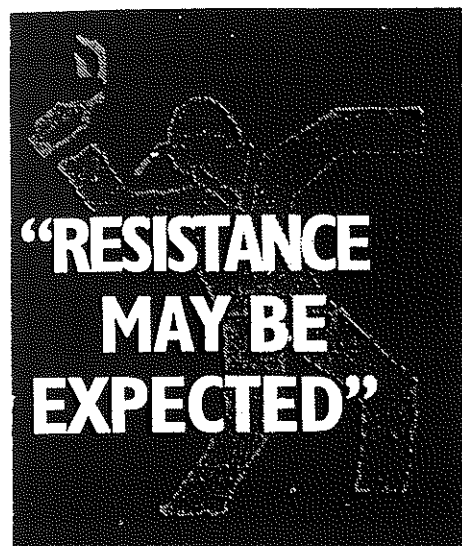
CHOGM also provides an opportunity for those who are seeking an alternative future to come together in action. People are coming from across the country and across sectors and areas of interest.

And importantly, this is our opportunity to show the world that we are

not happy with what has gone on in the last 5 - 15 years. The worlds attention will be focused on us for a few days, and we have the opportunity to tell the world that the New Right is still the Old Wrong!

Who to contact.

If you want to get involved in organising the CHOGM protests, or just want to find out more, you can contact the CHOGM Action Coalition at 33 Wyndham St, Auckland, or ring Sue, David or Caroline at 09-302-2496. Or else you can contact us at AYN. We are also trying to arrange cheap / free accommodation for people, particularly young activists, so if you are intending to go to CHOGM and want help with this, please get in touch **NOW** so that we can arrange it.



Affirmative Action, Quota Systems, and the Sad History of our Education System

There's a deeply held belief among many New Zealanders that if you're Maaori you can get special perks out of the system others can't. The belief in Maaori pampering surfaces on talk-back radio and letters to the editor, in the opinions of newspaper columnists, in the utterances of certain politicians, and in the vehemence with which programmes targeted towards Maaori are opposed.

It gets its fullest airing in the publications of the One New Zealand Foundation or Stuart C. Scott's *The Travesty of Waitangi*, which argue Maaori are getting "money for nothing". By adding up all spending on Maaori policy or programmes with Maaori names, they calculate more than \$1.6 billion was given to Maaori organisations over the past decade.

But does a policy of affirmative action or positive discrimination exist? The truth is, New Zealand has always been wary of ethnically-targeted programmes. There are few Government-funded assistance programmes for Maaori.

Some university faculties have quotas in place to increase the number of Maaori (and other minorities) entering the professions. Polytechnics are increasingly encouraging Maaori to enrol, as they compete for student numbers and funding. Other government agencies (and some private ones) have policies requiring them to take into account the Treaty of Waitangi. But there's no manual on how to go about it. Efforts to implement such policies are eyed by some sections of the community with suspicion and hostility.

In the past, the Department of Maaori Affairs administered programmes for Maaori. Most mirrored what was available to non-Maaori. Maaori housing loans were little different to Housing Corporation loans, and in many cases involved tougher conditions. Job training schemes were similar to the general Labour Department schemes, but less well funded.

Many programmes reflected their origins in the 1950s and 1960s, when expectations of what the state should or could provide were

greater. Former prime minister David Lange, in a 1988 speech, spelt out the essence of a Maaori affairs policy. He said Maaori society is different from European society in fundamental ways, and fairness demands government deal with it differently. "That is why services the government offers to Maaori people will look different from the services it offers to other people. They are not better services or extra services. They are the services we are all entitled to, delivered differently."

In the wake of Winston Peters' ill-conceived Ka Awatea plan, most of those services were swept away under the guise of "mainstreaming". A recent publication by Te Puni Kokiri, the Ministry of Maaori Development, details some effects of handing programmes to mainstream departments.

The \$50 million job training budget went to the Education Training and Support Agency (ETSA) to be merged with the rest of the money for the Training Opportunities Programme (TOP). But it's no longer targeted to Maaori or Maaori train-

ing providers, despite Maaori unemployment being almost four times the rate for Paakehaa. Funding for Mana Enterprises, a loan scheme which helped many Maaori start their own small businesses, was split between the Labour Department's community employment group and the regional business development boards. Neither programme offers investment capital nor helps people without money who want to start a new business.

The Maaori and Pacific Island Recruitment Scheme, aimed at increasing participation in the public sector, was scrapped in late 1990. Chief executives are still expected to ensure those groups are adequately represented on their staff, but there are no hard-and-fast rules. There is still a \$4.3 million fee subsidy for Maaori in tertiary study. The Manaaki Taura scheme was set up in 1992 to address the low numbers of Maaori continuing their education past secondary school. Money worries were identified as a strong disincentive to further study, particularly for those from poor families.

The scheme is now handled by the Education Ministry's Special Education Service. Manaaki contract manager Brian Cotton says this year more than 10,500 students applied. 8050 met the criteria. Unlike previous years, when the money was doled out on first-come first-served, the SES split the available funds equally, paying 28 % of each student's fees.

Brian Cotton says SES tendered for the contract to administer Manaaki Taura because it fitted in with its primary function. "Our mission is to assist people to have greater opportunities to participate in life", he says. "New Zealand is going to be a better place if all groups have an equal opportunity to contribute. "From an economic point of view, Maaori are over-represented in lower earning groups, so it is more difficult for whaanau to fund their kids into education. It should also have a snowball effect: By having more Maaori in tertiary education, you have role models saying education is accessible."

Some university faculties have adopted a quota system. The Auckland Medical School's Maaori or Pacific Island Admission Scheme (MAPAS) dates back to 1972. Registrar Sue Cathersides says the school seeks to train doctors for the New Zealand environment. Customer choice and ethnic diversity are part of that. "We all have a right to seek a doctor we are comfortable with," she says.

Senior lecturer Graham White, who has monitored MAPAS since its inception, says although quota students can have slightly lower bursary scores to enter, they must get the same marks as everyone else to pass out the other end. Since 1990 12 places have been set aside, but they're not always filled. This year 9 students were chosen from 71 applicants. Candidates are interviewed on their cultural involvement and commitment, and the school must be confident they can cope with the coursework.

Not all the Maaori and Pacific Island medical students come in on the quota. Many get there on their own scores, and some object to any suggestion they be treated differently.

Graham White says the Maaori and Pacific Island students tend to overcome many initial difficulties by studying together. Other students who're struggling or need extra tutoring will often gravitate to the MAPAS room. "The key thing is that it is successful in terms of course completion. Over 80% of these students have completed," he says.

That means the scheme hasn't attracted the negative criticism as have affirmative action programmes in the United States, where pass rates among minority students are significantly lower. "We see it as a temporary programme. We hope by next century it won't be needed, and admissions will match society at large."

Auckland's law school has also had quotas since the early 1970s. Dean

Mike Taggart says they're aimed at groups under-represented in the legal profession, and include Maaori, Pacific Island, disabled and mature student categories. 49 of the 425 places in Law 1 (previously law intermediate) are set aside for Maaori, representing relative population. All the places aren't usually filled. The following year Maaori students only need a C+ average to get into Law 2, rather than the B or B+ average demanded of other students.

"The basic notion of a quota is a lower entry standard for particular groups, but once they're in the law school they have to pass the same exams as everyone else," he says. "We have a good success rate because there is support for the students. It doesn't help people if you admit them, and then don't give them the support they need." Mike Taggart says the law school is bound by the University's charter, which includes a commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi. "The treaty is a code word for the special place Maaori have in New Zealand society."

He says the pivotal role of law in New Zealand's colonial process, and the importance of law to Maaori people still, means there is a high demand for Maaori lawyers. The University's Business and Economics faculty has run a Maaori and Other Polynesian Admission Scheme (MOPAS) since 1986. This year 24 students were admitted under the scheme, out of a total intake of 900.

Co-ordinator Marlene Panapa says once the faculty has conducted its initial cull of applicants, it makes a further assessment of Maaori and Pacific Island students whose bursary marks may be just below the cut-off point. They are interviewed to see whether they are likely to do well in the degree. "Bursary is not always an adequate measure of a student's ability," says Ms Panapa. "Once they're at university, students have to be more in control of what they are doing. Often they do better here than at school."

The extra check also picks up students who may have only sat four bursary subjects, but achieved high marks.

Students are given extra tuition to get them through their first year, and older students help those coming in. The final results usually match those of the mainstream, and in fact the 1993 graduates did better than the norm.

School dean Professor Alastair MacCormack says the effect of the scheme is not dramatic, but it is strongly positive. There's growing demand for Maaori with business and professional qualifications, which the school is attempting to meet. The number of Maaori and Pacific Island students entering through the mainstream intake is also on the rise.

"In part the MOPAS scheme has helped to achieve that. I don't think it's time yet for the scheme to go away."

The school also offers a post-graduate diploma in Maaori business development. Professor MacCormack says the course has been so successful it's likely to be significantly expanded next year. Other departments like engineering and architecture are also experimenting with quotas, but Maaori still only make up about five percent of University students.

In part this reflects more than a century of deliberate educational policy, which has profoundly affected New Zealand's society and race relations.

Judith Simon from Auckland University's Education Department has made a close study of the history of Maaori schooling.

She says from its earliest beginnings in 1847, state funding of Maaori schooling was aimed at strengthening the government's power, securing social control, and helping settlers acquire Maaori land. Maaori gave land for schools and paid for teachers so they could increase their life-chances by accessing European knowledge, but

they found the schooling provided was aimed at limiting those chances.

The arguments of school inspector Henry Taylor in 1862 underlay policy until recent years: "I do not advocate for the Natives a refined education or high mental culture; it would be inconsistent if we take account of the position they are likely to hold for many years to come in the social scale, and inappropriate if we remember that they are better calculated by nature to get their living by manual than by mental labour."

Judith Simon says while racial ideologies are no longer promoted publicly, "neutral" intelligence or assessment tests still serve to keep Maaori under-educated and over-represented in the negative indexes.

Countering this legacy requires innovation, risk and the return to Maaori of a significant measure of control of their own education. An example of this is the initiative taken by prominent educationalist Dr Pita Sharples to create one of the few programmes which would truly qualify as an "affirmative action" policy.

Dr Sharples and his partners in Te Herenga Waka Consultants brought together the Employment Service, ETSA, the Community Employment

Group with Brierleys, Harrahs and Sky City Casinos to offer a pre-employment course for Maaori who wanted to work at the new Auckland Casino.

Each fortnight 60 students are put through an intensive course, which aims to give them a head start when the casino starts hiring. With word of mouth advertising, the courses are now booked up past November. "It's empowering the students," says Dr Sharples. "They're not waiting round for the casino to open. They're going off and getting jobs all round the city."

"It's affirmative in that it's not a quota. It just allows them to compete."

"What people don't realise is that Maaori people are tied to the yoke of colonialism. They carry around with them the negative statistics. It's cool for Maaori to think they are shy, that they shouldn't blow their own trumpets."

"But that's not how traditional society worked. People had to stand up and be counted." Pita Sharples says in the past, many job training schemes have been baby-sitting, because of the lack of jobs. "Now we've stopped baby-sitting, and we're empowering our people."

• Adam Gifford



Decatur Police attack peaceful demonstrators at Staley plant gate, 6/25/94.

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New Zealand's Colonial Role in the Pacific

New Zealand acted as colonial over-lord in the South Pacific for a large part of this century, with Western Samoa, the Cook Islands and Niue gaining independence during the 1960s and 1970s. The term used to describe the relationship was a trusteeship. New Zealand was "given" the islands of the Cooks and Niue as part of manoeuvrings of the British at the turn of the century and Western Samoa after Germany lost World War One.

In 1926 Britain "gave" Tokelau to New Zealand. Being trust territories meant the over-lord country was to prepare the trust country for independence and New Zealand eventually did this exploiting the land and people. It acted as a typical coloniser. The relative "super-power" arrogance continues to this day. Foreign Affairs of course claims a proud record, which goes to show once an arrogant coloniser mentality always an arrogant coloniser mentality.

New Zealand political leaders starting as far back as George Grey, Julius Vogel and 'King Dick' Seddon wanted to be over-lords, and were miffed when the Europeans carved up the South Pacific around 1899. New Zealand had hoped to get Fiji and Western Samoa at that stage as well as Niue and the Cooks. However bargains made in Berlin and London decided otherwise at that stage - just as Africa had been divided up, so too the South Pacific.

The colonial powers took the first 25 years of the life of the United Nations to come up with a framework for decolonisation. This forced the New Zealand government to finally hand over control in Western Samoa in 1962 and then in the Cooks in 1965.

New Zealand, as with Britain and Australia raided the islands of the resources - physical and human, and when they felt like it they abandoned the people. Coloniser countries allowed people born in the colonies to become residents of the colonial power, but this has seen racist backlashes in all colonial countries ever since - NZ included.

During the 1960s and early 1970s the people of the South Pacific were encouraged to come here, along with migrants from other countries (the UK and other parts of Europe). Many people irrespective of country of origin over-stayed their work permits, and when unemployment began to show its ugly face the Government looked for a scape-goat. Whereas Adolf Hitler attacked the leftists, Gipsies and Jews, our Government attacked overstayers, and the state forces picked on non-Paakehaa. Maaori as well as Samoan and other Pacific Islanders were picked up. Dawn raids, doors being broken down, neighbours pointing the finger, it was all on.

The racist state was just as much alive in the mid 1970s as it was through-out the years of land confiscation Maaori suffered in the years before (and since).

The robbing of the people of the South Pacific included the type of investment in the islands where all the profits were repatriated to the head offices in Auckland or Wellington (or London or Sydney). That robbery continues today and the racist-colonial attitudes still abound.

The colonial arrogance also infiltrates emergency aid relief. When Samoa was hit by cyclone Bola,

New Zealand in its generous (sic) way rounded up volunteer carpenters and so forth and sent them to the islands. What that precipitated was the Samoan carpenters and plumbers living in Samoa losing work, as they could not compete with the free labour from good ol' New Zealand. As with many emergency relief operations the donor wanted to do what it wanted to do, not what the victims wanted or needed.

The attitudes also spread to other fields of endeavour, like the rugby coach who refused to select a player after he decided to represent Western Samoa rather than New Zealand.

One early nasty "administrative" decision was when a 'flu epidemic hit Western Samoa the consul refused to get in any vaccine from the neighbouring America Samoa because of diplomatic reasons. None came from New Zealand - it was too far way. Thousands died. The administrator, did get in medical supplies to ensure his family and staff did not suffer - no diplomatic boundaries there.

New Zealand's record as coloniser in the South Pacific is every-bit as bad as its willingness to honour the Treaty.

(Based on report titled "decolonisation" in Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade publication "NEW ZEALAND AS AN INTERNATIONAL CITIZEN" written by Lindsay Watt as part of the UN 50th Anniversary.)

Pocahontas

Vision

Many people, including the members of this electronic community, are deeply offended by Disney's new movie, 'Pocahontas'. Children who view this movie may obtain a distorted image of a living people and their culture. The film contains historical inaccuracies and prejudicial lyrics.

The historical truth is that Pocahontas was no more than 10 years old and John Smith was at least 42 when they met. An entry in Smith's later memoirs suggest that he may have forced himself upon her. Furthermore, Pocahontas did not marry John Smith, but John Rolfe, when she was 14. If there was any 'romance' between John Smith and Pocahontas, he would be considered a child molester today. The movie contains scenes and lyrics that promote racism and sexist stereotypes. The most disturbing of these are the following lyrics, from the song 'Savages':

"What can you expect from filthy little heathens?
Their whole disgusting race is like a curse.
Their skin's a hellish red.
They're only good when they are dead!"

These lyrics are just as offensive to members of this community as 'nigger' is to Afro-Americans and Nazi propaganda is to the Jewish Community. Worst of all, no child and few adults can easily 'undo' a catchy Disney song once it's in their head.

If your child was of native American descent, imagine how you would feel if your son came home in tears to tell you that his / her classmates sang 'Savages' to him / her? Or if your daughter told she wanted to be

like the Disney Pocahontas, instead of a member of the culture that you, your parents and grandparents, worked so hard to preserve? Although some of us were excited when we first heard that Disney was going to tell the story of Pocahontas, we now feel betrayed. Unfortunately, Disney has let us down in a cruel, irresponsible manner.

Like the real Pocahontas, there have been many people in the past, both white and native, who have worked hard to form a bridge of communication and understanding between the cultures. Please don't threaten their work by supporting Disney's version of the story. Please read the following suggestions instead, choose an alternative and discuss with your child your reasons for doing so.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:

1. Do NOT purchase any Disney Pocahontas tickets or merchandise.
2. Voice your opinion to Disney at <http://www.disney.com/BVPM/PressRoom/Pocahontas/Survey.html>
3. Encourage your child to learn about other cultures, not as cartoon figures, but as real, living people.
4. Send copies of this letter to other parents that you know. Feel free to distribute it at your child's softball games, etc.
5. Consider donating to a non profit organisation that assists native children.

Local body elections are not generally considered politically sexy. Petty populists and bumbling bureaucrats have long haunted the local authority stage, and, as a result, decisions about the futures of our communities have been made on an ad hoc and short-sighted basis. When you ally this with the old kiwi attitude of 'keep party politics out of local bodies,' you get development that is unplanned and unsustainable. But this is 1995. Local government in Auckland will never be the same. The Alliance has developed, over the course of this year, the Greater Auckland Plan (GAP), a visionary document aimed at providing a sustainable future for the entire region, with issues of social equity and justice and a quality natural environment very much to the fore.

The plan builds on the success of the Alliance dominated Auckland Regional Services Trust (ARST). This body was set up in 1992 in order to sell off the publicly owned regional assets, including the Ports of Auckland and the Yellow Bus Company, in order to pay off the huge debt (hundreds of millions of dollars) inherited from the old Auckland Regional Authority. It is now 1995 and the ARST has retained all the major assets and by the end of the year will have cleared all the debt.

The GAP aims to use the strength the region has gained by retaining its assets and clearing its debt to develop a comprehensive public transport system including electrically powered light rail and to reduce waterway pollution. The plan also strongly advocates the creation of a Hauraki Gulf National Maritime Park, which will preserve and enhance the opportunity for future Aucklanders (and people from all over Aotearoa) to enjoy the islands and waters of the Gulf. The GAP also demands sustainable resource

in Local Body Politics?

management and the development of industry that uses 'clean technologies'.

The plan also advocates maximising the role of local communities in decision-making by giving Community Boards as much of a role as the Local Government Act allows, and requires that elected representatives understand kaitiakitanga, and give effect to those cultural ideas, and Treaty principles, through local and regional partnership with Maori. Furthermore, the GAP includes extensive policy on social equity and fairness, arts and culture, local and regional parks, employment and economic wellbeing and the rights of council staff to collective bargaining. Phew!

The plan weighs in at twenty-three pages of finely distilled and carefully considered policy for a sustainable city in the twenty first century. The Alliance views the ideas embodied in the GAP as so important that they have invited candidates from all tickets to endorse the plan if they agree with it. People have flocked from all corners of the local body spectrum to endorse the plan. Mayoral candidates to endorse the plan are likely to include the Mayors of Waitakere (Bob Harvey) and

Manukau (Sir Barry Curtis) and at least one candidate from North Shore City.

Pièce de résistance would have to be Pam Corkery, talk-back hero for the working classes, and mayoral candidate for Auckland City. This is one serious document if it can persuade a major media celebrity to sacrifice all the perks of her job (and one serious income) for the often ugly sphere of politics. What will the Greater Auckland Plan do for the young people of Auckland? In the short term, the development of a truly integrated and low fare public transport system will give young people mobility that they currently do not have access to, whilst reducing the need to use polluting private vehicles. The social equity aspects of the plan demand that the special needs of young people (and other groups such as the elderly and those with disabilities) be addressed when policy at all levels is developed. Most importantly it will give young people the security that as they grow older they will still be able to swim at the local beaches, tramp on the islands of the Gulf and be certain that the region's most important assets will remain in public ownership (particularly the water distribution network).

So if you are an Aucklander and you have a vision of a city with a comprehensive publicly owned and operated light rail system, accessible and extensive recreational and conservational parks and islands, unpolluted waterways, sustainably managed resources and democratic local communities, take a look at the Alliance's Greater Auckland Plan. If you think it's great, sure, but they'll never do it, just look at the ARST. The Alliance was elected because they agreed to 'save the assets and pay off the debt', and everyone was told they'd never be able to deliver. Well, they did, and they can deliver the Greater Auckland Plan too.

If the Alliance sweeps the ARST, the Auckland Regional Council and the various city councils in the region in the 1995 elections, move to Auckland.

Gareth McGuinness
Auckland University Youth Alliance

More information about the Greater Auckland Plan can be obtained during the campaign by phoning the Greater Auckland Plan office at (09) 360 2020.

Tahitian Riots!

Interview With Gabriel Tetiarahi, coordinator of the Polynesian NGO network Hiti-Tau, concerning the recent disturbances in Tahiti.

Who demonstrated at the airport?

Young people. Most of them were from the poor districts. Of course, there were also anti-nuclear activ-

ists and union members who came to Tahiti's airport, but they had wanted a non-violent protest.

But then buildings were set on fire and shops were looted...

Some militant union members may have been involved, but only very few. Most of those involved, how-

ever, were the people who suffer the most from the economic and social problems on the island. Most were between 15 and 25 years of age, unemployed, and without any useful education. These people cannot be controlled.

What did all of this have to do with the nuclear tests?

The environmentalists, union members, and church people felt very insulted by Chirac's decision.

And what about Oscar Temaru's Independence Party?

I think that Temaru was surprised by the turn of events. Local workers, who are organized in the unions and who took part in Wednesday's general strike, did not ask permission, they simply took the heavy machinery and blockaded the runways at the airport.

Has Tahiti ever seen such scenes of civil war?

Oh sure, during the workers' struggles of 1987 in the harbor and in the city, there was even more destruction. But this time, the events were characterized by the extreme disappointment and anger of the youth.

These people seem to link everything together: protests against the nuclear tests, the demand for independence, and the social problems as well.

The demonstrators, who are the catalysts for the anti-nuclear protests, are just the expression of the problems which my people face. But the people's anger at this first test is tied to the fact that for the last few months all they have been hearing are statements from the French government and from Greenpeace. The social problems and the suffering of the Polynesian people are never mentioned. This feeling of inferiority, of not even existing in other people's minds, manifested itself in violence. For one thing, I noticed at the airport that camera teams were attacked and journalists' cars were set on fire - for this reason, I'm sure.

That sounds like a critique of Greenpeace.

Sure, Greenpeace brought global attention to Mururoa - to its own activities at Mururoa.

"Blood will flow in the streets" was what one high-ranking official from

the Evangelical Church said before the revolt broke out.

When a few Hiti-Tau activists came to me and said, "Gabi, we're burning the city", I felt as if I had no right to stop them. The true violence is being done by the French and their bombs. The Polynesians are merely reacting to the violence being done to them. We had already done so many non-violent protests and demonstrations, signed petitions and mailed them in, but the governments in Paris - from de Gaulle to Chirac - never once paid us any attention.

Could these emotions lead to

Tahiti's independence?

No. This outbreak of violence was only partly connected to the movement for independence. The independence movement, like the anti-nuclear movement, are making use of the present time because they feel like they have the support of international public opinion. But these emotions will eventually subside. We need to try to find a place for these youths within our society, that's what we should be fighting for. But, there could be a repeat of these protests, if the sense of frustration persists.

• (Interview by Nicola Liebert)

NATIONAL PARTY ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN DUNEDIN

THREE DAYS OF ACTION

On the weekend of August 18 to 20, the National Party held its annual conference in Dunedin, described on the radio that morning as a "Student Stronghold". 450 delegates came south, complaining about the cost of the conference (\$500 to \$1500 dollars, depending on your choice of accommodation), the cold, and the protesters!

The first protest was largely a student affair, being organised by the Otago University Students Association, on Friday at 1pm. 700 plus students marched down the main street chanting "National Out" and "Lies, lies, lies, National tells us lies". We were stopped at the Town Hall by lines of police carrying batons. The mood of the protesters was excited and loud, speeches were made, messages written to the Nats on the ground, and a wreath to the Decent Society laid at the feet of the police. Other people added flowers to the wreath, threw them over the police lines, or put them in the button holes of the Men and Women in Blue!

Friday night saw another protest, and the 'first stepping' up of action and tactics from both police and protesters. A "Noise March" was held, with around 100 people armed with noise makers, flags and banners converging on the Town Hall. Several attempts were made to get inside the Hall, with protesters pushing through police, and at times 'vigorous' reaction coming from police. At one stage, two Police dogs were used to keep the protest split in two, but when people simply walked around them, they were put away! At the end of a sometimes intense action, a National Party flag was burned, and the protesters marched back along the main street.

That night, noise raids were carried out on the hotels where delegates and police were staying. One protester was arrested, and noise makers were confiscated.

On Saturday morning, protesters greeted delegates as they entered the conference. While the action was good humoured and happy, the police were more aggressive and

forceful, pushing people back off the Town Hall steps and breaking a protest banner.

On Sunday morning, the National Party delegates went to a Church Service at the Presbyterian First Church. Two people from the Student Christian Movement joined the service, (which was in their own church) and were to make a final reading from the Book of Isaiah, but were hustled out by police officers. Another Christian student 'greeted' (with permission) the delegates as they left church with the message 'listen to the young people, they have a point'.

About 20 people turned up just in time to welcome Jim Bolger as he arrived at the Town Hall after the service. They so unnerved him (by trying to talk to him) that he tried to walk through a locked door. We greeted each of the delegates individually as they came in, and some stopped to talk for a short period of time.

Sunday afternoon saw the most intense protest action of the weekend. 100 demonstrators made repeated attempts to stop National delegates and ministers leaving over several hours. Music played and chants were kept up. The focus of the action was two delegates buses and the limousines of certain

ministers. Bill Birch's car stopped inches away from seated protesters after accelerating towards them. Don McKinnon's and Bolger's cars also faced attention from protesters.

Police used force to remove people, stomping and pulling, even throwing one woman underneath the back of a reversing bus. A number of complaints have been or will be laid by protesters about police actions. Six arrests were made, including two for 'assault'.

SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE HELD TO COINCIDE WITH PROTESTS

As well as running the protests, students also organised a Social Justice Conference and public forums to present positive alternatives to National Party policies. Some 600 - 700 people took part in these activities, which focused on issues of Economics and Sovereignty. Sue Bradford from the AUWRC, Peter Hughes from the State Housing Action Coalition, and Mike Smith and Annette Sykes, Maaori Nationalists, spoke at these events.

Participants in the forums found Mike and Annette very inspiring with their strong and lucid call for the full decolonisation of Aotearoa, and an invitation to tau iwi activists to join

them in working for this.

As Mike said, 'We need to find clear mechanisms for change, break the silence of oppression, and build alliances for our common goals.'

POLICE PRESENCE INTENSE

Over the whole weekend, the police presence and actions were very heavy handed. People were photographed and video taped while sitting in the Octagon, while they were at protests, while they were at the Social Justice Forum, and even at private meetings.

The police knew by name all of the organisers, and on occasions some officers threatened to 'get' people. Most disturbing, it was made clear that the video tapes were being sent to Auckland as 'preparation' for the CHOGM actions. This demonstrates a continuing trend in Aotearoa for the police to identify and monitor 'known activists' and discourage them from exercising their democratic right to have a voice.

The weekend of action was a huge success for us. We wanted to make our opposition to the National Party's policies known, not just to the delegates at the conference, but also to the general public. We wanted to let them know that not all is well in New Zealand, and hope-

fully give National Party members an insight into how people live outside of the rarefied atmosphere of \$500 - \$1500 conferences.

We also made steps forward in working with organisations around the country, and especially with Maaori activists. While protest is both fun and important (not to mention exhausting), we see this proactive work as being the key to a better future.

• Hayden Wilson
and Joss Debreceeny



WHAT IS AOTEAROA YOUTH NETWORK?

The Aotearoa Youth Network is an organisation dedicated to building links between youth who are active in "progressive" politics. It is open to all and seeks to provide a place for discussion, learning and action across organisations, individuals and causes.

AYN was established at the 1993

Peace, Power and Politics Conference, where over 600 people (including over 150 young people) gathered. The main activity of AYN so far has been the production of a monthly newsletter, which presently goes to over 200 people, and reaches a far wider audience. AYN has established a positive presence in the progressive peoples' movement, and hopes to go beyond "networking" to assist in the formation of new organisations and groups.

We want to put anything in this magazine that you can write - news,

articles, poetry, letters, anything. The more you write in, the more this magazine acts as a networking tool. We attempt to print anything you send without cutting but please note:

We will not print anything that is overtly racist, sexist, homophobic or offensive to any marginalised group. If you want to debate issues that may offend people, try and be very clear about what you are going to do, and why.

**Next deadline for articles:
October 20th.**

SUBSCRIBE TO AYN!

	10 Issues	20 Issues
Unwaged/low waged	\$10	\$15
Waged	\$20	\$30

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